

**FIRE PROTECTION POLICY BOARD**  
***Special Meeting***  
**July 20, 2005**  
**General Administration Building- Olympia WA**

**Board Members Present:** Sharon Colby, Jim Broman, Jennifer Gregerson and Dean Hosni

**Staff Present:** Samuel Pierre, Ellen Tombleson, Anjela Foster, and Mike Matlick

**Guests Present:** Mike Brown, Jason Richards, Dan Packer, Jim Crawford, Ed Lewis, Dave Leitch, Brian Vogel, Mark Havener, Doug Bleeker, Bruce Holloway, Alan Predmore, Ted Hendershot, Doug Blair, Wayne Wienholz, Greg Miller, Bill Steele, David Lynam, Judie Cline and Dennis Heryford.

Sharon Colby opened the meeting at approximately 11:00. Following introductions, State Fire Marshal Samuel Pierre advised that currently there is no funding or resources available for the bureau to conduct fire investigations.

Assistant State Fire Marshal Anjela Foster provided a historical overview of the fire investigation program, beginning when it was housed in the Office of the Insurance Commissioner, where it was an active investigation unit with fully commissioned staff, though the early 90's when the program was eliminated due to budget cuts. Anjela also provided an overview on the concept of the regional funding that was provided with the intent that the regions would become self-sufficient by developing regional investigation teams, or developed other methods of ensuring fire investigation were performed as necessary.

Following discussion, a general recommendation emerged for the Fire Protection Policy Board to explore establishing a committee specific to the subjects under discussion. A draft, two-fold charge was discussed with consensus to move forward. As a result, the draft charge language/concept will be discussed at the Fire Protection Policy Board's Work Session, scheduled for July 27 at North Bend.

Following is the draft language that was developed. The first charge is intended as a first-step and stopgap measure to address immediate concerns and the second is a longer term view.

- Charge # 1; (Short term)  
Develop a strategy to properly authorize, fund from existing resources, and coordinate the deployment of existing out-of-jurisdiction resources to perform origin and cause fire investigations. (It was suggested that this could be modeled after the Washington State Fire Service Mobilization Plan)
- Charge # 2; (Long term)  
Develop a plan that will:
  - A. Describe the value of and the need for a comprehensive statewide code enforcement and fire/criminal investigation program; and
  - B. Propose a statewide prevention plan, including potential legislation, funding, training, delivery, and accountability.

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